

DISABILITY EVALUATION AND PRINCIPLES OF TREATMENT OF COMPENSABLE INJURIES—Sixth Edition, Earl D. McBride, B.S., M.D., F.A.C.S., F.I.C.S., Clinical Professor in Orthopedic Surgery, University of Oklahoma School of Medicine; Attending Orthopedic Surgeon to Baptist Memorial Hospital; Consulting Orthopedic Surgeon to St. Anthony Hospital and Mercy Hospital; Founder and Senior Consulting Orthopedic Surgeon, The Bone and Joint Hospital and McBride Clinic, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. J. B. Lippincott Company, East Washington Square, Philadelphia 5, Pa., 1963. 573 pages, \$22.00.

This is the sixth edition of this particular work on disability evaluation. It is the only book of its kind of any particular value that has been published.

It fulfills a very strong need in many parts of the United States, particularly in those areas which require a mathematical computation of the degree of disability that may result following upon injury or disease.

The tables which Doctor McBride has worked out over an experience of many years are extremely valuable in this regard.

The book, as a whole, does include a number of chapters having to do with recommendations in regard to both treatment and diagnosis. The areas of the book having to do with diagnosis and treatment are not the best feature of the book as a whole.

By reason of legislative changes, the need for disability evaluation determination is becoming an increasing problem to the practitioner of medicine. This book does offer some ready reference in this regard, but it is not yet the final solution. The author has prepared this work over a period of many years of hard effort to resolve primarily the problems that have arisen in workmen's compensation in the geographical area in which he works. The book is of extreme value to any person treating or evaluating disability, the result of injury or disease, where such a mathematical formula is utilized.

In the State of California this is unnecessary and the book would, therefore, have little appeal to anyone treating workmen's compensation insurance cases or the disability that arises therefrom.

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TEXTBOOK OF MEDICINE (Cecil-Loeb)—Edited by Paul B. Beeson, M.D., Ensign Professor of Medicine, Yale University School of Medicine, and Walsh McDermott, M.D., Livingston Farrand Professor of Public Health, Cornell University Medical College. W. B. Saunders Company, West Washington Square, Philadelphia 5, Pa., 1963. 1835 pages, plus index, \$19.50 single volume. (\$23.50, 2-volume set.)

Every 3 to 4 years since 1927 there has been a new edition of the Cecil-Loeb Textbook of Medicine—and there has yet to be an inferior one.

The authors change—and now the editors change—but the high quality remains. The 11th edition marks the retirement of both Dr. Cecil and Dr. Loeb and the assumption of the editorship by Dr. Paul B. Beeson, Professor of Medicine at Yale University School of Medicine, and Dr. Walsh McDermott, Professor of Public Health at Cornell University Medical College.

The authors and their group of associate editors have attempted to cover the whole subject matter of medicine. Their major achievement is to provide the physician and medical student alike with authoritative information and discrimination in many and diverse fields of medical knowledge. The book is one in which the reader can find mention of almost any disease or syndrome—many are touched only briefly, but selected references allow the reader to go further into any chosen subject.

The subject matter is organized by diseases. Almost every major division has an introductory section: some of these are in short essays characterizing the present status and

apparent trends of entire disease fields—such as diseases of the gastrointestinal tract or those caused by bacteria. Others, such as the one on immune mechanisms, represent critical reviews of basic information.

The burgeoning new field of genetic disorders has caused the inclusion of an entire new section with Dr. Alexander G. Bearn as associate editor. Four other sections with associate editors, who have shared the responsibility for major areas of the book, include diseases of the blood (Dr. Carl V. Moore), diseases of the digestive tract (Dr. Marvin H. Sleisenger), endocrine and metabolic diseases (Dr. Philip K. Bondy) and diseases of the nervous system (Dr. Harold G. Wolff). In all there are 173 contributors, 66 of whom are new.

The net result is of necessity a massive volume of almost 2000 pages. It is available in either one or two volume editions. The two volume set is preferable—the single volume being too bulky except to remain on the library table. But the contents within the covers of either the one or two volume set are highly recommended.

EDGAR WAYBURN, M.D.

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COLUMBIA-PRESBYTERIAN THERAPEUTIC TALKS—Topics in Medicine for the Internist and General Physician—edited by Hamilton Southworth, M.D., and Frederick G. Hofmann, Ph.D., College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University and Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center, New York City. The Macmillan Company, New York, and Collier-Macmillan Limited, London, 1963. 198 pages. (No price quoted.)

This book is a compilation of talks on therapeutics given to the senior and junior medical students of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University. The proper selection of drugs based upon pharmacology, physiology and pathology is the major point of emphasis with due attention paid to indications, contraindications, and cautions about side effects.

Thirteen subjects are discussed in this series. They include anticoagulants, management of atrial fibrillation and flutter, cardiac arrest, use of oxygen and aids to ventilation, treatment of resistant bacterial infections, selected aspects of cancer chemotherapy, anthelmintics and amebicides, untoward drug reactions, steroid therapy, sedatives, hypnotics and tranquilizers, oral hypoglycemic agents, management of obesity, and treatment of hypo and hypercalcemic states. Each subject is discussed by authors well experienced in their respective fields. They are physicians who present a pharmacologist basic rationale for each and every therapeutic measure employed.

One drawback to medical texts on therapeutics today is that newer drug methods tend to supplant those recommended yesterday. For example in the chapter on management of cardiac arrhythmia electric countershock is mentioned in an addendum and one must look elsewhere for a further summation.

The review of cardiac resuscitation is exceptionally well done and the chapter on anthelmintic drugs provides a splendid up-to-date coverage of the subject. The various types and dangers of drug reactions and the indications and dangers of steroids are most completely reviewed but not all would agree with Dr. Perera's valuation of ACTH as worthless.

It must be realized that these presentations were prepared for medical students and at times the subject matter appears elementary. However, the correlation is excellent and this reviewer agrees with its authors that generalists and internists will benefit by reading these reviews. The ground covered by a book of this sort is far less, but is done more thoroughly per subject matter presented than the current annual cook book type of therapeutic texts published today.

JULIAN LOVE, M.D.